



Beautiful as are very many of the hand-painted toilet articles, which are tinted celluloid—pin and comb trays, handkerchief cases, mirror and picture-frames, work-baskets, and manifold ornaments made of celluloid, it has been found to be a most dangerous compound, to be almost as carefully guarded as gunpowder. A very sad accident recently happened to a child who held a dressing-comb too near a gas jet. The comb, coming in sudden contact with the flame, burned as only celluloid can burn, and was the cause of the child's death. Celluloid is attractive in appearance, but next day it is added to life when this highly combustible substance is made into articles for daily use. A spark from hearth or lamp or the head of a lighted match falling on it is sufficient to produce a serious conflagration. A photograph in a celluloid frame, held near a lighted candle for closer inspection, resulted in the loss of the picture, the belongings on the pretty five-o'clock tea table that held the candle with its flimsy pink shade, broken china, burned hands, and a ruined tea-gown. It is well to remember that celluloid flares and blazes with a ferocity rarely equaled.

Moonlight gray is a beautiful opaline tint of that very fashionable color.

One thing pointing to a new lease of life for the blouse bodice is, that this style favors the fancy for that which is known as slashing—an effect much employed by both ladies' tailors and dress-makers. A handsome model just completed—making one of half-a-dozen gowns included in a very pretty troussseau—is of soft fawn-colored cloth lined with green and gold shot taffeta. The blouse bodice is slashed from the waist upwards for some distance, perhaps nine inches, and reveals a green satin bodice beneath. This is striped horizontally with narrow gold braid. The blouse is cut out rather low and rounding in the neck, with a guimpe of the broad-striped satin showing above. The close sleeves made with a full short puff at the top are also slashed to show satin interstices. Judiciously carried out, this now familiar form of decoration proves very effective, and strange to say, has never become sufficiently popular to become in the least hackneyed. Inch-wide bands of brown fur were used to outline the edges where slashings were made on the gown just described.

Modistes are making considerable use of shirred silk, which to many is a pleasing change from silk of the accordion-pleated variety. It is utilized for



SPRING GOWN OF CHEVIOT FROM HARPER'S BAZAR

Already people are beginning to think about making to their spring gowns. Cheviot is the material which seems to meet the first demand, and there are several different styles in which it is used. One design is made with a skirt which has the effect of an apron and very narrow front breast; the waist is in the basque fashion, shorter at the back considerably than it is in front. The front turns over in double revers, on the upper one of which is a pattern of braiding. There is a pointed vest above the waist, and below this a yoke is a vest of black satin. The correct cut of this gown can be obtained from the cut paper pattern issued by Harper's Bazaar, where it appeared. The contrast of the white against the black is very good, and makes the gown more becoming than it otherwise would be. The sleeves are of medium size, finished very plainly at the hand.

style being selected when the broad low-crowned Devonshire hat is worn, with full ostrich plumes that droop from the sides, and the hair is pinned at the back. Fashion here is inclining greatly to the use of the Marie Antoinette roll covered with hair the shade of one's own tresses, which when adjusted, give the wearer the appearance of owning an excessive wealth of "woman's crowning glory."

To replace the winter coats of fur, French ateliers are making some stylish Louis XV. models of black and colored velvets, which are somewhat longer than the Louis Seize jackets to be worn with skirts of silk or cloth. The Louis XV. coats have revers of white satin bordered along the edge with velvet, on which is laid a delicate design of pure white point applique lace. The broad-back effect without a seam in the center is preserved in these coats, and the sleeves fit tightly to the arm from shoulder to wrist.

More high-necked dinner-gowns have been worn this winter than for many seasons past, and even for very grand dinners and for debutantes the half-bodice is finished with a guimpe Russ of transparent textile laid in shirrings, plaits, or tucks.

A very large number of evening dresses are made with transparent sleeves reaching to the wrist. The bodice proper may have a transparent yoke, or guimpe to correspond, or be cut low, or in three-quarter style, either form being without doubt fashionable; nevertheless, a low bodice with long sleeves in Victorian fashion looks extremely odd, and it is rarely if ever becoming.

Petunia continues to be a very fashionable color, the pinkish rather than the purple red of the flower being favored. A cloth gown of this rich color has the skirt ornamented with rows of silk stitching only, the front of the blouse bodice being crossed with very dark petunia velvet ribbon in large diamond patterns. The arched collar is of velvet, and are also the pudgy slashed Queen Anne cuffs set at the top of the very close-fitting long sleeves. Another pretty costume of petunia Venetian cloth has a velvet guimpe and sleeves worn with a low-cut sleeveless blouse of the cloth, the edges bordered with pale tan cloth overlaid with rows of petunia silk gimp. The overdress is lifted to show a multi-colored underdress of the tan cloth similarly trimmed.

Fine India cashmere, or drap d'ete, is an ideal material for young girls' best dresses. Indeed, any woman under 30 may wear cashmere. I am speaking now of evening dress, for of course, women of any age wear it in dark shades at other times. Two of the most charming toilets seen recently were worn by beautiful sisters opposite in type from each other. One dress was of creamy white India cashmere, the blouse and sleeves delicately embroidered, in shaded pink and green. The other young girl wore a pale blue cashmere, very sparsely but most effectively ornamented with palest blue and delicate pink silk embroideries. Straw-colored satin, trimmed on the bodice with blonde lace, and a cluster of natural red roses, formed a striking gown worn by the mother of these lovely girls. Dark hair and eyes are supposed when such a toilet as this is chosen, but the wearer in this case was a blonde of the purest type, and most charming she looked in her pale yellow gown.

The newest skirts on evening toilets are very light and supple, being merely silk lined, and not at all stiffened with interlining. The majority of the models lately made in this city, or received from abroad, are mounted on an underskirt of silk or satin, each skirt made separately, but joined to one waistband. The underskirt is made slightly narrower than the dress skirt proper. The dart seams on some of the new Princess dresses extend to the very edge of the skirt hem, and these are often hidden their entire length by a line of gimp, a design in braidwork, or a machine-stitched band, decorated with tiny tailor buttons.

Sashes are to lose none of their popularity for months to come, as large involutes of the most beautiful ribbons of medium width are already in the importers' hands. They consist of satin-bordered corded-silk patterns, Roman and Persian stripes with deep fringes at the ends, shepherd's check weaves banded with satin in one of the colors of the check, frosted and shot silk sashes, plain or woven with tiny flowers; also handsome watered varieties in black, white and colors.

Having been exceedingly popular all winter in Paris and London, jeweled belts are now becoming very generally worn here by both house and street costumes. City importers have just opened to view a great variety of these belts, with buckles to match. They are very gorgeous indeed. Not the enchanted valley explored by Sindbad himself could supply genuine stones in quantity and elaboration matching those which fill shop counters and cases, and embellish the gowns and jackets which fashionable women are now wearing. Some of the narrow rolled-gold belts encrusted with tiny mock emeralds, turquoise, opals and wonderfully brilliant diamond clippings are really very handsome, and so are the medium-sized oblong or triangle-shaped boucles that clasp them. But the broad gilt belts set with huge imitation rubies, sapphires and other red, yellow, green and amber stones do not appeal to a refined taste. The craze for artificial jewelry of a cheap, conspicuous kind is to be deplored, and the fashionable people who introduced the best of this doubtful decoration have now discarded it.

As a trimming, lace appliques are always artistic. The lace sprays and special pieces look very handsome laid on velvet, satin or silk grounds. Evening blouses are now very frequently trimmed with lace appliques, and for vests and yokes on dress toilets this kind of dainty decoration is admirable. It is essential to good results that the material so trimmed be of a fine texture, and it goes without saying that nothing but the finest fabric should be thus enriched.

Getting Even.

"Seems to me I've seen your face before," said the Judge, peering through his spectacles.

"Yes, your honor, you have," replied the prisoner. "I am the professor who gives the young lady next door to you lessons on the piano."

"Six years!" came from the Judge quickly.—Yonkers Statesman.

Something Escaped.

Boarder—This chicken soup seems to be rather weak.

Landlady—I don't see why; I told the cook how to make it, but perhaps she didn't catch the idea.

Boarder—Perhaps she didn't catch the chicken.—Chicago News.

Racon says that "reading maketh a full man." So does eating bacon.

IN RELIGION'S REALM.

EXPRESSIONS FROM VARIOUS RELIGIOUS NEWSPAPERS.

The Religious Thought of the Day as Expressed in the Secular Press.

"Part of the difference in form between the teaching of Christ and that of the Apostle comes from the fact that the Apostle preached the Gospel along the lines of his own experience," says the "Living Church" (P. E.) of Chicago. "Certain critics talk disdainfully about his metaphysical rendering of the grandly simple truths of Jesus, but St. Paul had to defend the truth against philosophical attacks, and he was obliged to meet such attacks in the most effective way. Christ was to him philosophy as well as salvation, for He was the fullness that filleth all things. To him God in Christ settled every question, both in the heavens and on the earth, and he was ever ready to give to Jew or Gentile a reason for the faith that was in him. This controversy, like all other theological controversies, is being overruled by the great Head of the church for the intellectual and spiritual profit of His people. The necessity of combating the confusing of mind and shaking of faith for a few timid believers, but the good will be permanent and valuable. Already it is sending our greatest interpreters of Scripture back to an earnest and impartial study of the Epistles, and the seeing of things afresh in Paul's own eyes, rethinking his thoughts, and stating them with fidelity and persuasiveness. The result will be a larger apprehension of the value of the Epistles to the church in our day, and a clearer understanding of the church of Christ, the nature of Christ in the Gospels by the teaching of the apostles."

"Not the least of the perils of the church of America to-day," says the New York "Outlook," "is that threatened by the possible separation of capitalism and conservatism into separate camps. If they are separate, they will be hostile; and, instead of uniting their forces in a common war against vice and ignorance, they will employ them in war against each other. Sectarian strife is civil war in the church of Christ. The church must be at peace with itself if it is to conquer the world. We advise, then, the liberal Episcopalian not to leave the church of his fathers and his love because sacerdotalism appears to be dominating in it; we advise him to stay in, unless he is put out, and preach a theology as broad and a liberty as large as that of Robertson and Maurice and Stanley and Brooks. We advise the Presbyterian to remain in the church in which he has been brought up, and preach the freedom of faith for all within an ancestry who were willing to lay down their lives. Let every man, in the church wherein he was called, therein abide with God. Not able to promote strife and debate; not able to assault the opinions of others, either within or without the church; but build up, and remember that knowledge puffeth up, but love buildeth up."

"The religious condition as it presents itself to us is threatening, rather than in a desperate or discouraging condition," says the New York "Christian Intelligencer" (Ref.). "The serious question is, What of the next generation? If men hold to religion and yet forsake the church; if they try to serve God, do justly, and practice mercy, and in the meantime, by the means of grace, and by the example of the Sabbath, the sanctuary, and the institutions of religion, will not the next generation depart still further from the service of God and duty toward fellow-men? The religious condition is not so bleak as it appears. It needs only the ministry of the best of the church can give of native ability, thorough training, and intelligent, consecrated piety. It needs on the part of church members consistent living, godly lives, which alone will convince the world of the worth of the church and the religion it represents and promotes. Observation and experience would seem to indicate that there is no reason for Christian workers to become discouraged, though there are enough symptoms of religious decline to demand earnest efforts and fervent prayers that it may not become general or fatal."

"The ministry as a divine calling in recent years has been declining in public esteem," says the "Congregationalist" of Boston. "For this decline ministers and churches are mainly responsible. They have permitted the standard of value, have decided what qualities they want in a minister, and what preparation is necessary to fit him for his position. People generally have accepted their standard. A generation ago the ministry stood highest among the armed professions. The theologian was the lowest. The Massachusetts Bar Association would treat as ridiculous an application for membership with a degree of preparation in law which in theology would satisfy a Massachusetts Ministerial Association. Medical or dental associations would not accept a candidate with no more knowledge of their business than the knowledge of theology which would make a candidate acceptable to ministerial associations."

"There are not a few Baptists nowadays, it is to be feared," says the New York "Examiner" (Bapt.), "who are members of our churches not so much because of an intelligent comprehension of the peculiar truths for which we stand, as from the circumstances of birth, and the force of custom. It is so serious a matter—loyalty to the truth as revealed in the New Testament. They do not have a firm grip upon the great principles which underlie and comprise our separate existence as denominations. The days when it cost something to be a Baptist, who became such did so because conscience compelled. They accounted stripes, imprisonment, fines, social ostracism, the sneering accusation of narrowness and bigotry as nothing in comparison with the joy of obedience to the commands of Christ. Now, when it costs nothing to be a Baptist, many have lost this strong conscience-grasp upon the truth, and cast off their allegiance to the denotations—that is, to the principles for which it stands—whenever convenience or inclination prompts, as though it made no real difference whether they were Baptists or something else."

"Mr. Moody thinks that when he was born of the spirit he 'got a new

nature,' and one entirely different from that with which he came into the world. The evidence of it he finds in the new desires and the new direction of his life. 'We suspect,' says the "Universalist Leader" of Boston and Chicago, "that if Mr. Moody should take a careful inventory of the faculties and powers that make up his nature he would find them to be precisely the same that he had before his conversion. His energies may be differently directed, he may have tastes, sympathies, purposes, standards, affections, which he had not before; and speaking in the language of literature rather than of science he may say that he is another man, with a new nature. But Mr. Moody is a literalist. His contention is that the 'old nature' has been expelled and a literally new nature put in its place. That belief is a superstition and a needless burden on Christianity. The story of man is, that his nature, his common human nature, is capable of rebirth into the consciousness of higher, truer, holier life."

"Nor have we any idea in mind that it is possible to give galvanic old revival machinery with new power," observes the "Central Christian Advocate" (Meth.) of St. Louis. "The man who says that what we most need is the 'old-time class meeting,' and that the general use of the mourners' bench would revive the church, has not yet begun to study the problem of our current needs. What we need is a spirit of consecrated ingenuity, of zealous inquiry, of holy zeal, which will devise fresh methods of securing conversions; modern revival helps and apparatus adapted to the conditions of to-day. Has the vital spirit of Methodism died out—the spirit that seeks to adapt means to ends, that invents new methods of reaching men, that is fertile and quick in devising a new way to get where the old way has failed? This inventive spirit will prompt men who are in touch with God, and who really want to help others into the kingdom. In the search or the right means to be used. Instead of using old-time machinery, why not, when that fails, to produce the best results, search out new methods?"

"Schemes for the relief of aged ministers are frequently proposed," says the "Standard" (Bapt.) of Chicago. "It is suggested by the contributor to the 'Outlook' that each church should maintain for the benefit of its pastor an endowment life insurance policy, the surrender value of which, at the age of 65 or 70, should be sufficient to provide for his wants during the remainder of his life. It is suggested that the annual premium on a \$5,000 policy of the sort named would be but a slight burden on most churches, though too great for many pastors to deduct from a small salary. The point is made that in the end the churches would actually save money in this way. We doubt if the scheme could be wisely applied in the smaller churches, where it is most needed. But it does emphasize the truth (which we must insist, is not sufficiently appreciated among Baptists—not to speak more generally), that the churches should be largely made up of young or middle-aged men for their work, and pay them no more than is necessary for their current expenses, and object strongly if the pastors engage or invest in any business enterprise, it is their duty—not their privilege, but their duty—for old-age pensions when such are needed."

Kissed Her on a Bet.

A clever trick was worked by Walter Redmond, and then, on the morning of the 17th, he was seen at the Union Station, by which several traveling men were duped out of their money. At the end of a long seat in the waiting-room was a pretty and a modest-looking young woman, who was reading a book. The man, who was dressed in a Salvation Army uniform, was sitting next to her. He was reading and paid little attention to the crowd of traveling men standing near her.

Aside from the crowd was a well-dressed young man, who was walking back and forth by the news stand, puffing away at a fragrant cigar. Finally a member of the crowd of traveling men remarked upon the beauty of the little Salvation Army worker. All eyes were fixed on the little woman, and the received many compliments. The well-dressed young man, who had been walking near the group of drummers, drew near the crowd. He, too, was struck with the appearance of the woman.

"I'll give any one of you fellows \$15 if you kiss that girl," said he.

No one in the crowd took the dare. One suddenly spoke up, however, and said to the stranger who had offered the money: "I'll bet you \$20 that you can't kiss her."

The stranger hesitated for several seconds and then said: "I'll just take that bet."

The money was put up and the stranger, who had given his name as Walter Redmond, walked over toward the little woman in uniform, and, after bowing profoundly, took a seat by her side.

At first the woman seemed to be very indignant, and the traveling man thought he had the \$20 won. A minute later, however, Redmond's arm stole around the woman's waist. The spectators then began to open their eyes wide. One of them said: "That fellow has a whole lot of influence over that girl. It may be that he is a hypnotist." Redmond talked for probably two minutes, and then kissed the woman.

Redmond walked over to the stakeholder and received his money. He then started from the spot. The little woman quickly arose from her seat, and, taking his arm, walked to Ninth and Broadway, where the couple took an East Broadway car. Redmond is tall and handsome. His wife is a blonde and is exceptionally pretty.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Eight Days on the Witness Stand.

"The longest time I ever saw one witness on the stand," said a man from Hardinsburg, "was during the life of Judge Kinschloe, who was regarded as one of the ablest members of the Breckinridge bar. He was honored by his people with the high offices to which he aspired, and he was always respected in the highest as a man of learning and a ripe scholar. During his active legal practice his land and title were unsettled in our courts, and some of the most important suits came up over titles. In the case of Askins vs. Askins, in which Judge Kinschloe and the late George W. Williams of Owenstony were the counsel, the taking of testimony consumed two months. It was then that Mr. Askins was on the stand continuously for over eight days, and when the Judge had questioned him from every conceivable point of view, he said: 'Well, Mr. Askins, you are excused, but I'm afraid we've pumped you so dry you won't have anything to tell your wife and family when you get home.' The witness retired badly confused, but evidently glad to get off the rack."—Louisville Post.

The style of house that will accommodate two families with no trouble has never yet been constructed.

A STARTLING ACHIEVEMENT.

COLD WATER USED TO MAKE IRON RED HOT.

A New and Practical Application of a Strange Discovery about Electricity—Burton's "Liquid Forge."

Few operations look more like a miracle than heating a piece of iron to a cherry hue, or an even more dazzling incandescence by thrusting it into a tank of cold water. None of Herrmann's illusions could be more startling than this feat, which, as now performed, is a practical reality, and not merely an entertaining trick. Hitherto the blacksmith has plunged a horseshoe or other product of his art into a bath, beside his forge to lower the temperature of a piece of metal which has already been heated in the fire. It is now proposed to do away with the broad hearth, the coals, the blaze, and the bellows, but to retain the tank and its contents. Then, simply by immersing the iron therein, it will be quickly brought to the desired temperature.

Two or three trifling changes may be made in the tank. A metal lining will be provided, perhaps. Possibly some other liquid may be substituted for common water, although it has been proven beyond a doubt that the latter is entirely adequate for the work. The most important modification of the apparatus—the only essential one, in fact—is provision for sending a powerful electric current through the tank in the proper manner. On this account the invention is known as the "electric liquid forge."

Over in Newark the other day, when tests of the device were being made, it was found that a railroad spike fully an inch in diameter acquired a cherry tint fifty seconds after it was dipped into the cold bath, while a half-inch bolt came to a white heat in eighteen seconds.

When the new system is brought to perfection and introduced into boiler-shops, carriage factories, smithies and similar establishments it is likely to show its superiority over the old one to two or three points. For instance, in the liquid forge only that part of the iron which is actually submerged receives the direct action of the heating process, and it is acted upon uniformly along that much of its surface; whereas, when it is poked down into live coals on a hearth the chances are that either more or less of the iron is heated than the workman wishes, and that one part will be much hotter and softer than another. Then again, when iron is worked in the common forge it oxidizes and gives off scales, thus wasting the material, weakening the article and perhaps spoiling the fit in some job. There is much reason for believing that the electric forge will prove more economical and more convenient for certain classes of work than the other styles now in common use.

The general arrangement of this wonderful apparatus is as follows: The tank is about as big as a kitchen sink, and stands on four legs. It is a portable affair. Two carefully insulated wires, proceeding either from a dynamo on the premises or from some general power and lighting circuit outside, are led into the room. The "positive" wire is connected with the metal lining of the reservoir. The other wire is secured by welding or solder, or otherwise, to a pair of tongs, whose handles are covered with insulating material. The negative wire is long enough and flexible enough to allow considerable movement by the workman. The latter merely grasps with these insulated tongs the spike, bolt, horseshoe or other object which is to be heated and dips it into the liquid. That is all. When it is hot enough he turns to his anvil, and hammers the thing, or drops it where another workman can pick it up, and then uses his magic tongs afresh to handle something else.

The way and wherefore of the operation here described are so simple as to be understood by a child. When the ends of two wires leading from a battery, dynamo or other generator of electricity are immersed in a fluid, the passage of the current through the latter, from the one terminal to the other, tends to disintegrate the fluid into its elements. Water, for instance, is separated into oxygen and hydrogen gases. If the liquid be a solution of nitrate of silver, that salt is broken up into nitric acid and pure silver. All known sub-

stances under such circumstances show a disposition to gather about one or the other of the two terminals, or poles. That fact is turned to advantage in electrolysis. The silver which is gradually liberated by electric dissolution (or electrolysis), is deposited on some object (a fork or spoon, say) at the end of one wire, and the acid accumulates around the other. In an electric forge, if the liquid used be water, then the oxygen gas seeks the metal lining of the bath and the hydrogen goes to the immersed iron. If some other kind be used the same phenomenon occurs, one element going in one direction and the other one in the other.

Another familiar principle comes into play here, also. When an electric current is sent through a circuit it proceeds quietly if the conductor is large enough and of the right character to favor the passage. But if the conductor, or a short link in it, be reduced in size or be poorly suited to the flow, then the resistance which is offered at that particular point produces heat. This is the reason that a carbon filament glows white hot in an Edison lamp as soon as the electricity is turned on.

Now, in an electric forge the copper wires, the metal lining of the tank, the water, the tongs and the iron spike which the workman wishes to heat are all excellent conductors of electricity. But the film of negative poles, the forms around the negative pole, the immersed iron, is a poor one. The resistance which it offers produces intense heat, and does so instantly. That effect would not be observed if a feeble current were employed. But a powerful current requires better facilities of travel than a weak one, and if its demands are not complied with it gets "hot in the collar." The heat thus generated is imparted to the iron rather than the water, at the point of contact. Hence, the effects which have been observed.

The apparatus, which has recently been the subject of experiment in Newark, and which eventually ought to prove serviceable in certain lines of industry, was devised by a Boston man, George D. Burton, and that the fundamental idea of it was discovered about twenty years ago by two Belgians, Lagrange and Hohe, who took out patents in Germany. It was believed at one time that the system could be applied on a very much larger scale than Mr. Burton proposes, and that it might prove useful in the treatment of armor plate. Negotiations were conducted for a trial of the process at the Krupp works in Essen.—New York Tribune.

Just From Dawson.

A Dawson City mining man lay dying on the ice.

He didn't have a woman nurse—he didn't have the price.

But a comrade knied beside him, as the sun sank in the west.

To listen to his dying words and watch him while he froze.

The dying man propped up his head above four rods of snow.

"The air is growing thicker, and that's a sign," he said.

Send this little pin-head nugget that I swiped from the mine.

To my home, you know, at Deadwood, at Deadwood in the Hills.

"Tell my friends and tell my enemies, if you ever reach the East.

That this Dawson City region is no place for man or beast.

That the land is desolated and the wind too awful cold.

And the Hills of South Dakota yield as good a grade of gold.

Tell my sweetheart not to worry with a sorrow too intense.

For I would not thus have panned out had I had a lick of sense.

Oh! the air is growing thicker, and those breezes give me chills.

Ge, I wish I was in Deadwood, in Deadwood in the Hills.

"Tell the fellows in the home land to remain and have a chip.

That the price of patent pop chaps here is eighty cents an inch.

That I speak as one who's been here scratching 'round to find the gold.

And at ten bucks an ounce I could not buy up a cold.

Now, so-long, the faintly whispered, "I have told you what to do."

And he closed his weary eyelids and froze at six p. m. d. o.

His friend procured an organ box and c. o. d. d the hills.

And sent the miner home that night to Deadwood in the Hills.

—Deadwood Pioneer.

Malapropos.

"How often," said Miss Miami Brown, "it do happen dat er thoughtless remark'll spile de pleasure ob er occasion."

"Yassended," replied Mr. Erastus Pinkley. "One o' de gues'es at ouan own table stopped pagt right in de middle o' de kyalvin's ter ax 'im what we got de turkey."—Washington Star.

"You cannot keep a good man down," is the motto of the man who has been assailed.

'Twas proven many years ago

With Jonah and the whale.

—Puck.



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